

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending July 13, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 13, 2003**. Numerous rains and less sunlight has definitely delayed the progress of the State's cotton crop. However, a significant amount of the State's soybeans were planted early this year, and this crop has utilized above normal rainfall to advance ahead of normal. Cotton (a tropical plant) needs more heat and sunlight to mature than soybeans. Soil moisture was rated 7 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 30 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2002	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	97	93	96	97	1	2	14	50	33
	Dough	75	63	73	79					
	Dent	35	18	38	45					
	Silage Harvested	17	2	20	15					
Cotton	Squaring	85	77	93	97	3	6	17	51	23
	Setting Bolls	48	35	63	70					
Rice	Heading	24	10	14	19	0	2	14	58	26
Sorghum	Heading	74	54	71	74	0	0	18	51	31
	Turning Color	13	—	4	12					
Soybeans	Blooming	80	67	54	75	0	2	17	54	27
	Setting Pods	59	37	35	52					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	58	51	58	59	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	98	88	100	99	7	14	33	46	0
Watermelons	Harvested	65	49	59	47	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						0	3	14	66	17
Pasture						0	2	20	60	18

County Agent Comments

"Some farms got rains over the weekend, but most did not. Growers are irrigating all they can. Insects are present, but light."

— Don Respons, Bolivar

"Scattered showers have been helpful for all crops. Some areas in the county area are still in need of rain. Crops are progressing later than normal."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

"Corn Silage harvest is progressing well, and yields look good!"

— Theresa Sanders, Hinds

"Continuous rains have caused farmers to cut lower quality hay. Disease problems continue to take a toll on truck crops."

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Daily afternoon and evening showers continue to replenish soil moisture conditions. Although we have had several two to six inch rains in recent weeks, most of our hay fields, pastures, and corn silage fields are not muddy. Corn silage harvest is in full swing with yields being approximately 12-14 tons per acre. This year's corn crop has good grain yield which will allow a very high nutritional value silage product to be harvested.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Wet conditions prevailed and all field work and hay cutting have stopped. Grass is growing real well in pastures. Cotton is suffering somewhat due to wet soils. Loggers can't get into the woods until things dry out.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“There is plenty of summer grass for cattle. Hay harvest is at a standstill due to afternoon thunderstorms. Hay quality will be decreased due to poor harvest conditions.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Heavy rains pelted the crops Sunday night. No severe damage for the most part. All crops are holding up real well and are progressing pretty good for such a late start in some areas.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Between three inches of rain Thursday and one inch Sunday, we are wet again. The second round of PIX is due to go out this week. We better get it on or this crop is going to be trees!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Showers late in the week gave some irrigation efforts assistance. Some insecticide is being applied for heliothus in cotton.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Crops are looking better. Cotton will be delayed significantly compared with most years. Corn is faring the best, of the major row crops, and soybeans are in good condition with the exception of weed problems that couldn't be treated because of poor weather.”

— Karen Benson, Attala

“Warm weather is accelerating crop development. Heavy thunderstorms on Thursday stopped fieldwork for the rest of the week. Pasture conditions are excellent.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Heavy showers continue almost daily, and are scattered throughout the county.”

— Carolyn Conger, Covington

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

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Weather Summary from July 7, 2003 to July 13, 2003 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				81		0.87	-0.18	3	3.09				
Cleveland		70		82		0.40	-0.43	3	3.38				
Tunica	92	73	83	82	+1	0.09	-0.85	2	3.18	95	77	87	0.23
Extreme/Average	92	70	83	82	+1	0.45	-0.53	3	3.22	95	77	87	0.23
2. North-Central													
Batesville	90	70	80	80	0	0.38	-0.64	2	3.83				
Calhoun City				80		0.50	-0.48	2	3.61				
Independence	88	68	79	80	-1	0.96	+0.03	3	4.50				
Oxford	92	70	81	80	+1	0.08	-0.87	1	2.65				
Extreme/Average	92	68	80	80	0	0.48	-0.50	2	3.65				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	90	68	80	79	+1	0.50E	-0.48	1	3.68E				
Corinth City				81		0.37	-0.65	1	1.84				
Iuka	90	62	77	77	0	1.28	+0.23	3	3.06				
Ripley				79		0.36	-0.76	2	3.78				
Tupelo	91					0.40		1	5.64				
Extreme/Average	91	62	78	80	-2	0.58	-0.43	2	3.60				
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	90	73	80	82	-2	0.32	-0.88	1	3.00	98	82	88	
Rolling Fork	96	70	83	82	+1	1.61	+0.63	1	3.11	101	85	85	
Stoneville	92	72	82	82	0	0.19	-0.77	1	4.32	97	80	87	0.20
Yazoo City	92	70	80	82	-2	0.21	-0.77	2	2.01				
Extreme/Average	96	70	81	82	-1	0.58	-0.47	1	3.11	101	80	87	0.20
5. Central													
Canton	91	69	80	82	-2	0.26	-0.58	2	2.44				
Carthage	91	70	80	81	-1	0.51	-0.50	1	4.54				
Eupora	91	68	79	79	0	0.38	-0.60	1	4.45				
Extreme/Average	91	68	80	80	0	0.38	-0.71	1	3.81				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	70	79	80	-1	0.56	-0.35	1	3.49				0.15
Houston	90	65	77	79	-2	0.18	-0.81	2	6.43				
Louisville	90	70	79	79	0	0.25	-1.01	3	6.48				
State University	92	70	80	81	-1	1.17	+0.13	2	3.91	86	79	82	0.15
Extreme/Average	92	65	79	80	-1	0.54	-0.65	2	5.08	86	79	82	0.14
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	91	70	81	81	0	0.29	-0.76	2	8.97	92	75	84	
Natchez	90	70	80	81	-1	0.28	-0.63	2	3.47				
Oakley	97	70	82	81	+1	0.91	+0.04	2	3.05	99	80	90	
Vicksburg	91	71	81			0.77		4	2.48				
Extreme/Average	97	70	81	81	0	0.56	-0.51	3	4.49	99	75	87	
8. South-Central													
Collins	90	70	80	80	0	0.48	-0.64	3	7.57				
Columbia	92	70	81	81	0	1.04	-0.23	2	7.62				
Tylertown	92	69	80	81	-1	2.11	+0.75	4	9.80				
Extreme/Average	92	69	81	81	0	1.21	+0.03	3	8.33				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	92	68	80			0.25		4	11.42				
Hattiesburg	91	68	80	81	-1	0.97	-0.30	3	12.95				
Laurel				81		0.29	-0.96	1	6.66				
Newton	92	67	79	80	-1	1.96	+0.84	3	11.31	89	74	80	0.21
Extreme/Average	92	67	80	81	-1	0.87	-0.36	3	10.59	89	74	80	0.21
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	93	67	80	82	-2	0.27	-1.38	2	13.65				
Gulfport	91	72	82	82	0	0.30	-1.29	2	12.79				
Pascagoula				80		0.40E	-1.26	1	15.01				
Poplarville	93	69	80	81	-1	0.96	-0.54	3	14.03	89	71	80	0.15
Waveland	91	73	81	81	0	0.67	-0.85	3	13.06				
Extreme/Average	93	67	81	82	-1	0.55	-0.88	3	13.38	89	71	80	0.15
State	97	62	80	81	-1	0.62	-0.50	2	5.92	101	71	84	0.19

DFN = Departure from Normal.